

How North Carolina Compares



A Compendium of State Statistics

January 2013



Prepared by the
N.C. General Assembly
Program Evaluation Division



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Preface

The Program Evaluation Division of the North Carolina General Assembly was established in June 2007 to evaluate whether public services are delivered in an effective and efficient manner and in accordance with the law. As part of that mission, the Division is charged with developing quantitative indicators for measuring the activities performed and services provided by state agencies and the extent to which the activities and services are achieving desired results. *How North Carolina Compares* provides a framework on selected benchmarks for ranking North Carolina relative to other states and may be useful when evaluating ultimate outcomes of state government programs.

This third edition of this publication ranks North Carolina on areas including population, health, taxes, expenditures, and education. Data were extracted from the U.S. Census Bureau and other national databanks to assure uniformity of measurement across states.

This publication was designed as a quick reference that allows state comparisons across indicators, and we encourage feedback from members of the General Assembly on ways to improve its usefulness. We have provided a guide to reading the compendium on page iii, followed by a summary of how North Carolina ranks on each of the 25 indicators. As described in the reader's guide, when known, the value states aspire to was ranked first. Otherwise, the highest value was ranked first.

Sincerely,



John W. Turcotte
Director
Program Evaluation Division

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An explanation of our methodology appears at the end of the compendium.

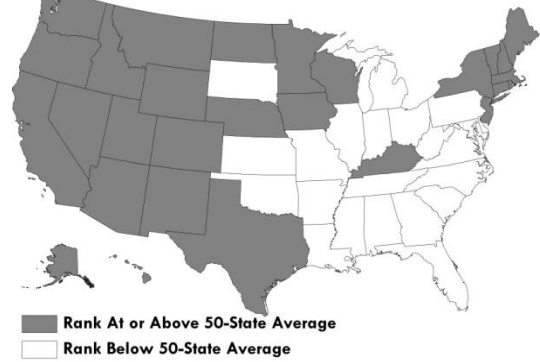
How to Read This Compendium

Rank		Rate
1	Utah	4.5
2	Minnesota	5.1
2	Washington	5.1
4	Massachusetts	5.2
4	New Jersey	5.2
6	California	5.3
6	Iowa	5.3
6	New Hampshire	5.3
9	Nebraska	5.6
10	Connecticut	5.8
10	Nevada	5.8
10	New York	5.8
13	Alaska	5.9
13	Oregon	5.9
15	North Dakota	6.0
16	Idaho	6.1
17	New Mexico	6.1
18	Colorado	6.4
20	Hawaii	6.5
20	Rhode Island	6.5
20	Vermont	6.5
24	Kentucky	6.6
24	Texas	6.6
24	Wisconsin	6.6
25	Wyoming	6.8
27	Arizona	6.9
27	Maine	6.9
28	Montana	7.0
50-State Average		7.0
29	Florida	7.2
29	South Dakota	7.2
31	Maryland	7.3
31	Pennsylvania	7.3
33	Illinois	7.4
33	Kansas	7.4
35	Missouri	7.5
35	Virginia	7.5
37	Arkansas	7.9
37	Michigan	7.9
39	Indiana	8.0
40	Oklahoma	8.1
40	West Virginia	8.1
42	Georgia	8.2
43	Ohio	8.3
44	North Carolina	8.8
45	Tennessee	8.9
46	Delaware	9.0
47	Alabama	9.4
47	South Carolina	9.4
49	Louisiana	10.1
50	Mississippi	11.4

Rank above the 50-State Average

Rank below the 50-State Average

Map Showing Ranks



The map shows states ranked above the 50-State Average (according to the table to the left) in gray and states ranked below the 50-State Average in white. The table to the left is shaded to correspond to the shading of the map.

Bulleted information includes

- The value states aspire to for the indicator, when known. Otherwise, the bullet states the highest value was ranked first.
- Information about the data in the table, including the time period of the data in the table.
- North Carolina’s rank on the indicator the last time this compendium was published.
- Additional data on the topic, when available.
- Some pages include a comparison to the 12 southeastern states, which are defined as Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia.
- A definition of the indicator, if necessary.

The source of information in the table and bullets is listed here.

Summary Table

Table	Measure	Rank
1	Population	9,656,401 10
2	Percent Change in Population	18.0% 6
3	Median Household Income	\$43,916 39
4	Unemployment Rate	10.5% 45
5	Percentage Employed in Computer or Math Occupations	2.5% 18
6	Percentage of Population Living in Poverty	17.9% 38
7	Percentage of Population Without Health Insurance	18.7% 35
8	Percentage of Adults Overweight or Obese	65.2% 37
9	Infant Mortality Rate	8.3 45
10	Per Capita State and Local Taxes	\$3,421 17
11	State and Local Taxes as a Percentage of Personal Income	9.9% 23
12	Per Capita State Taxes	\$2,320 24
13	Per Capita Federal Grants	\$2,102 30
14	Per Capita State Expenditures	\$5,458 12
15	Per Capita State General Fund Expenditures	\$1,936 26
16	State General Fund Expenditures as a Percentage of Personal Income	5.3% 32
17	Per Capita Federal Expenditures	\$9,490 34
18	Bond Ratings	AAA 1
19	Per Capita State and Local Debt	\$5,422 8
20	Per Capita Medicaid Expenditures	\$1,141 25
21	State Funding Per Pupil, K-12	\$5,159 31
22	Percentage with High School Education or Less	64.4% 27
23	Average Annual In-State Tuition	\$6,220 10
24	State Government FTE Employment	1.6 24
25	Percentage of Roads Maintained by the State	75.6% 4

Highlights

- North Carolina and seven other states ranked 1st in bond ratings for general obligation bonds in November 2012, receiving the highest rating from all three bond rating services.
- North Carolina ranked 4th in the percentage of roads maintained by the state in 2009 at 75.6%.
- North Carolina ranked 6th in population growth, increasing by 18% between 2001 and 2011.
- North Carolina ranked 8th in per capita state and local debt in Fiscal Year 2009-10 at \$5,422. Forty-two other states had higher per capita state and local debt.
- North Carolina ranked 10th in average annual in-state tuition and fees at public four-year colleges and universities in 2012-13 at \$6,220. The 50-state average was \$8,475. Forty other states had higher tuition and fees.
- North Carolina ranked 10th in population in 2011 with 9,656,401 residents.
- North Carolina ranked 12th in per capita state expenditures in Fiscal Year 2009-10 at \$5,458. Thirty-eight other states had higher per capita state expenditures.
- North Carolina ranked 17th in per capita state and local taxes in Fiscal Year 2009-10 at \$3,421. Thirty-three other states had higher per capita state and local taxes.
- North Carolina and four other states ranked 18th in percentage employed in computer or math occupations in 2011 at 2.5%.
- North Carolina ranked 23rd in state and local taxes as a percentage of personal income in Fiscal Year 2009-10 at 9.9%. Twenty-seven other states had higher per capita state and local taxes.
- North Carolina ranked 24th in per capita state taxes in Fiscal Year 2010-11 at \$2,320. Twenty-six other states had higher per capita state and local taxes.

Change in Rank

To determine change in rank, the rank for each indicator in this compendium was compared to that indicator's rank in the last edition of this compendium, which was published in 2011.

For both compendiums, the value states aspire to was ranked first, when known. Otherwise, the highest value was ranked first.

North Carolina's rank on an indicator "improved" if its rank number decreased, and this change is indicated with a **↑**. For example, North Carolina's rank improved for per capita state expenditures because North Carolina ranked 12th on this indicator in this compendium and 15th in the last compendium.

North Carolina's rank on an indicator "declined" if its rank number increased, and this change is indicated with a **↓**. For example, North Carolina's rank declined for unemployment rate because North Carolina ranked 45th on this indicator in this compendium and 44th in the last compendium.

North Carolina's rank on an indicator "stayed the same" if its rank number did not change, and this lack of change is indicated with a **=**. For example, North Carolina's rank stayed the same for population because North Carolina ranked 10th on this indicator in this compendium and the last compendium.

The table below tallies how many times North Carolina's rank improved, declined, or stayed the same on the 25 indicators included in this compendium.

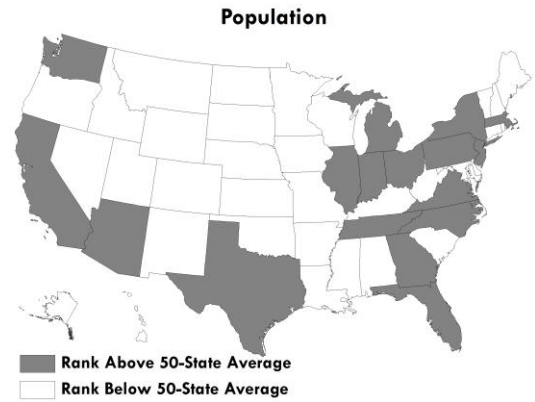
	Tally
↑ Rank improved	8
↓ Rank declined	10
= Rank stayed the same	7

Change in Rank

Table	Direction of Change	Number of Positions
1 Population	=	0
2 Percent Change in Population	=	0
3 Median Household Income	=	0
4 Unemployment Rate	↓	1
5 Percentage Employed in Computer or Math Occupations	↓	2
6 Percentage of Population Living in Poverty	=	0
7 Percentage of Population Without Health Insurance	↑	5
8 Percentage of Adults Overweight or Obese	↓	6
9 Infant Mortality Rate	↓	1
10 Per Capita State and Local Taxes	↑	1
11 State and Local Taxes as a Percentage of Personal Income	↓	6
12 Per Capita State Taxes	↓	6
13 Per Capita Federal Grants	=	0
14 Per Capita State Expenditures	↑	3
15 Per Capita State General Fund Expenditures	↑	3
16 State General Fund Expenditures as a Percentage of Personal Income	↑	1
17 Per Capita Federal Expenditures	↑	9
18 Bond Ratings	=	0
19 Per Capita State and Local Debt	↑	1
20 Per Capita Medicaid Expenditures	↑	5
21 State Funding Per Pupil, K-12	↓	5
22 Percentage with High School Education or Less	↓	2
23 Average Annual In-State Tuition	↓	3
24 State Government FTE Employment	↓	3
25 Percentage of Roads Maintained by the State	=	0

1. Population

Rank		Population
1	California	37,691,912
2	Texas	25,674,681
3	New York	19,465,197
4	Florida	19,057,542
5	Illinois	12,869,257
6	Pennsylvania	12,742,886
7	Ohio	11,544,951
8	Michigan	9,876,187
9	Georgia	9,815,210
10	North Carolina	9,656,401
11	New Jersey	8,821,155
12	Virginia	8,096,604
13	Washington	6,830,038
14	Massachusetts	6,587,536
15	Indiana	6,516,922
16	Arizona	6,482,505
17	Tennessee	6,403,353
50-State Average		6,219,478
18	Missouri	6,010,688
19	Maryland	5,828,289
20	Wisconsin	5,711,767
21	Minnesota	5,344,861
22	Colorado	5,116,796
23	Alabama	4,802,740
24	South Carolina	4,679,230
25	Louisiana	4,574,836
26	Kentucky	4,369,356
27	Oregon	3,871,859
28	Oklahoma	3,791,508
29	Connecticut	3,580,709
30	Iowa	3,062,309
31	Mississippi	2,978,512
32	Arkansas	2,937,979
33	Kansas	2,871,238
34	Utah	2,817,222
35	Nevada	2,723,322
36	New Mexico	2,082,224
37	West Virginia	1,855,364
38	Nebraska	1,842,641
39	Idaho	1,584,985
40	Hawaii	1,374,810
41	Maine	1,328,188
42	New Hampshire	1,318,194
43	Rhode Island	1,051,302
44	Montana	998,199
45	Delaware	907,135
46	South Dakota	824,082
47	Alaska	722,718
48	North Dakota	683,932
49	Vermont	626,431
50	Wyoming	568,158

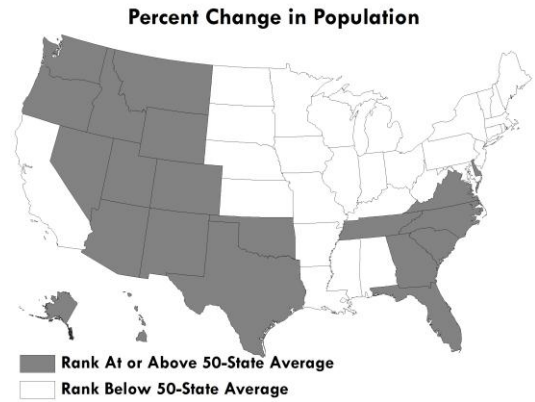


- This indicator was ranked from the highest value to the lowest value.
- North Carolina ranked 10th in population in 2011 with 9,656,401 residents. The 50 state-average was 6,219,478. In 2010, North Carolina also ranked 10th on this indicator.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, North Carolina and four other states (Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, and Virginia) were above the 50-state average.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2011.

2. Percent Change in Population

Rank		Percent
1	Nevada	29.3
2	Utah	24.1
3	Arizona	22.1
4	Texas	20.4
5	Idaho	20.0
6	North Carolina	18.0
7	Georgia	17.1
8	Florida	16.2
9	Colorado	15.8
10	South Carolina	15.2
11	Wyoming	14.9
12	Washington	14.1
13	Delaware	13.9
14	New Mexico	13.8
15	Alaska	13.8
16	Virginia	12.6
17	Hawaii	12.3
18	Tennessee	11.6
19	Oregon	11.5
20	Montana	10.4
21	Oklahoma	9.6
	50-State Average	9.6
22	California	9.2
23	Arkansas	9.1
24	South Dakota	8.9
25	Maryland	8.4
26	North Dakota	7.8
27	Alabama	7.6
28	Nebraska	7.6
29	Minnesota	7.5
30	Kentucky	7.5
31	Missouri	6.8
32	Indiana	6.6
33	Kansas	6.6
34	Wisconsin	5.7
35	Iowa	4.8
36	New Hampshire	4.7
37	Connecticut	4.5
38	Mississippi	4.2
39	New Jersey	4.0
40	Pennsylvania	3.7
41	Massachusetts	3.3
42	Maine	3.2
43	Illinois	3.1
44	West Virginia	3.0
45	Louisiana	2.5
46	New York	2.4
47	Vermont	2.2
48	Ohio	1.5
49	Rhode Island	-0.7
50	Michigan	-1.1

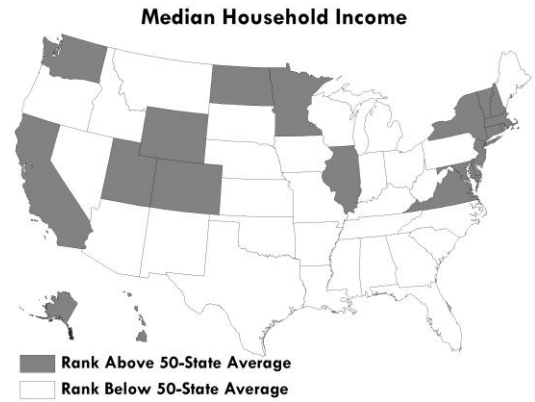


- States aspire to have population growth.
- North Carolina ranked 6th in population growth, increasing by 18% between 2001 and 2011. The 50-state average was 9.6%. In 2010, North Carolina ranked 6th on this indicator.
- North Carolina's population increased from 8,186,268 residents in 2001 to 9,656,401 in 2011, an increase of nearly 1.5 million people.
- Based on population estimates, the number of foreign-born residents in North Carolina increased by 17% between 2006 and 2011. The 50-state average was 6.4%.
- Based on population estimates, the number of North Carolinians over the age of 65 increased by 15.8% between 2006 and 2011. The 50-state average was 8.9%.

Sources: U.S. Census 2010; American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau (2011); American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau (2006)

3. Median Household Income

Rank		Income in \$
1	Maryland	70,004
2	Alaska	67,825
3	New Jersey	67,458
4	Connecticut	65,753
5	Massachusetts	62,859
6	New Hampshire	62,647
7	Virginia	61,882
8	Hawaii	61,821
9	Delaware	58,814
10	California	57,287
11	Minnesota	56,954
12	Washington	56,835
13	Wyoming	56,322
14	Utah	55,869
15	Colorado	55,387
16	New York	55,246
17	Rhode Island	53,636
18	Illinois	53,234
19	Vermont	52,776
20	North Dakota	51,704
50-State Average		50,654
21	Wisconsin	50,395
22	Nebraska	50,296
23	Pennsylvania	50,228
24	Iowa	49,427
25	Texas	49,392
26	Kansas	48,964
27	Nevada	48,927
28	South Dakota	48,321
29	Oregon	46,816
30	Arizona	46,709
31	Indiana	46,438
32	Maine	46,033
33	Georgia	46,007
34	Michigan	45,981
35	Ohio	45,749
36	Missouri	45,247
37	Florida	44,299
38	Montana	44,222
39	North Carolina	43,916
40	Idaho	43,341
41	Oklahoma	43,225
42	South Carolina	42,367
43	New Mexico	41,963
44	Louisiana	41,734
45	Tennessee	41,693
46	Alabama	41,415
47	Kentucky	41,141
48	Arkansas	38,758
49	West Virginia	38,482
50	Mississippi	36,919



- States aspire to a high median household income.
- North Carolina ranked 39th in median household income in 2011 at \$43,916. The 50-state average was \$50,654. In 2009, North Carolina ranked 39th on this indicator.
- North Carolina's median household income increased by less than 1% (\$242) from 2009 to 2011. Eighteen states' median household income decreased.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, all but Virginia ranked below the 50-state average.
- Median household income is the middle income of all households—half of the households earn more and half earn less.

Source: American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau (2009, 2011).

4. Unemployment Rate

Rank		Rate
1	North Dakota	3.5
2	Nebraska	4.4
3	South Dakota	4.7
4	New Hampshire	5.4
5	Vermont	5.6
6	Iowa	5.9
7	Wyoming	6.0
8	Oklahoma	6.2
8	Virginia	6.2
10	Minnesota	6.4
11	Hawaii	6.7
11	Kansas	6.7
11	Utah	6.7
14	Montana	6.8
15	Maryland	7.0
16	Delaware	7.3
16	Louisiana	7.3
18	Massachusetts	7.4
18	New Mexico	7.4
20	Maine	7.5
20	Wisconsin	7.5
22	Alaska	7.6
23	Pennsylvania	7.9
23	Texas	7.9
25	Arkansas	8.0
25	West Virginia	8.0
50-State Average		8.1
27	New York	8.2
28	Colorado	8.3
29	Missouri	8.6
29	Ohio	8.6
31	Idaho	8.7
32	Connecticut	8.8
33	Alabama	9.0
33	Indiana	9.0
35	Tennessee	9.2
35	Washington	9.2
37	New Jersey	9.3
38	Arizona	9.5
38	Kentucky	9.5
38	Oregon	9.5
41	Georgia	9.8
41	Illinois	9.8
43	Michigan	10.3
43	South Carolina	10.3
45	Florida	10.5
45	North Carolina	10.5
47	Mississippi	10.7
48	Rhode Island	11.3
49	California	11.7
50	Nevada	13.5

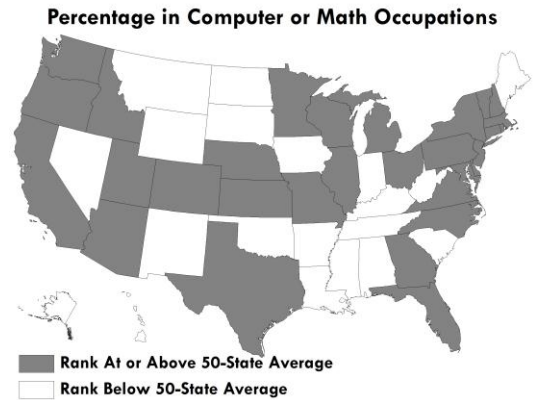


- States aspire to a low rate of unemployment.
- North Carolina ranked 45th in annual unemployment rate in 2011 at 10.5%. The 50-state average was 8.1%. In 2009, North Carolina ranked 44th on this indicator.
- Since 2003, North Carolina's unemployment rate has consistently ranked among the highest in the nation, with neighbor South Carolina experiencing similarly high rates.
- The unemployment rate is the number of people unemployed and actively looking for work divided by the labor force.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (2003-11).

5. Percentage Employed in Computer or Math Occupations

Rank		Percent
1	Virginia	5.3
2	Washington	4.4
3	Maryland	4.2
4	Massachusetts	4.1
5	Colorado	4.0
6	New Jersey	3.4
7	California	3.2
7	Delaware	3.2
9	Minnesota	3.1
10	New Hampshire	2.9
11	Arizona	2.8
11	Missouri	2.8
11	Utah	2.8
14	Texas	2.7
15	Connecticut	2.6
15	Georgia	2.6
15	Nebraska	2.6
18	Ohio	2.5
18	Rhode Island	2.5
18	North Carolina	2.5
18	New York	2.5
18	Oregon	2.5
23	Vermont	2.4
24	Illinois	2.3
24	Idaho	2.3
24	Pennsylvania	2.3
27	Florida	2.2
27	Kansas	2.2
27	Michigan	2.2
27	Wisconsin	2.2
	50-State Average	2.2
31	Alabama	2.0
31	Iowa	2.0
33	New Mexico	1.8
33	North Dakota	1.8
35	Arkansas	1.7
35	Indiana	1.7
35	Tennessee	1.7
38	Alaska	1.6
38	Hawaii	1.6
38	Kentucky	1.6
38	South Carolina	1.6
38	South Dakota	1.6
39	Maine	1.5
39	Montana	1.5
39	Oklahoma	1.5
42	Nevada	1.3
42	West Virginia	1.3
48	Louisiana	1.0
49	Mississippi	0.8
49	Wyoming	0.8

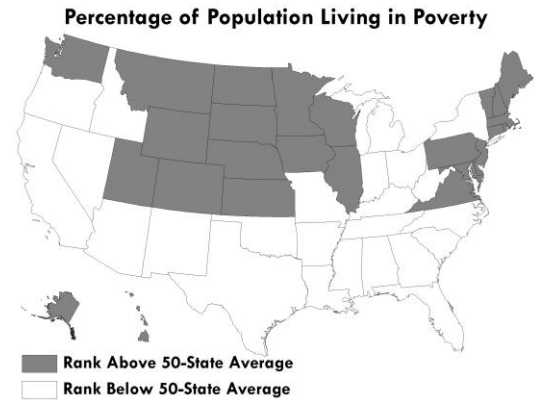


- States aspire to high employment in computer and math occupations; these positions typically offer high salaries.
- North Carolina ranked 18th in percentage employed in computer or math occupations in 2011 at 2.5%. The 50-state average was 2.2%. In 2009, North Carolina ranked 16th on this indicator.
- In North Carolina, the 2009 average annual salary for computer and math occupations was \$76,960, whereas the average annual salary for all occupations was \$41,250.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, only Virginia and Georgia had a higher percentage employed in computer or math occupations than North Carolina.
- Percentage employed in computer or math occupations measures the number of people employed in computer or math occupations in comparison to the total number of people employed in the state.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (2011).

6. Percentage of Population Living in Poverty

Rank		Percent
1	New Hampshire	8.8
2	Maryland	10.1
3	New Jersey	10.4
4	Alaska	10.5
5	Connecticut	10.9
6	Wyoming	11.3
7	Vermont	11.5
7	Virginia	11.5
9	Massachusetts	11.6
10	Delaware	11.9
10	Minnesota	11.9
12	Hawaii	12.0
13	North Dakota	12.2
14	Iowa	12.8
15	Nebraska	13.1
15	Wisconsin	13.1
17	Colorado	13.5
17	Utah	13.5
19	Kansas	13.8
19	Pennsylvania	13.8
21	South Dakota	13.9
21	Washington	13.9
23	Maine	14.1
24	Rhode Island	14.7
25	Montana	14.8
26	Illinois	15.0
50-State Average		15.2
27	Missouri	15.8
28	Nevada	15.9
29	Indiana	16.0
29	New York	16.0
31	Ohio	16.4
32	Idaho	16.5
33	California	16.6
34	Florida	17.0
35	Oklahoma	17.2
36	Michigan	17.5
36	Oregon	17.5
38	North Carolina	17.9
39	Tennessee	18.3
40	Texas	18.5
41	West Virginia	18.6
42	South Carolina	18.9
43	Alabama	19.0
43	Arizona	19.0
45	Georgia	19.1
45	Kentucky	19.1
47	Arkansas	19.5
48	Louisiana	20.4
49	New Mexico	21.5
50	Mississippi	22.6

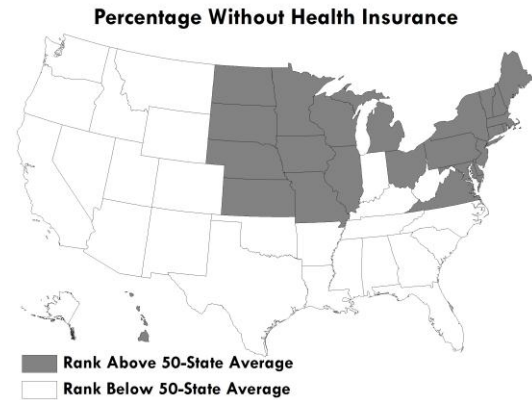


- States aspire to a low percentage of population living in poverty.
- North Carolina ranked 38th in percentage of population in poverty in 2011 at 17.9%. The 50-state average was 15.2%. In 2009, North Carolina also ranked 38th on this indicator.
- The number of North Carolinians living in poverty in 2011 was 1,680,963.
- The U.S. Census Bureau uses thresholds to estimate the number of Americans living in poverty. These thresholds are updated annually; the 2011 poverty threshold was \$23,081 for a family of four with two children. The poverty thresholds used by the U.S. Census Bureau are different from the poverty guidelines used by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to determine financial eligibility for certain programs such as Medicaid.
- The percentage of North Carolinians living below 200% of the federal poverty threshold in 2011 (\$46,036 for a family of four with two children) was 39.3%. The 50-state average was 34.2%.
- In 2011, the number of children (under age 18) in North Carolina living in poverty was 579,725, or 25.6% of the youth population. The 50 state-average was 22%.

Source: American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau (2011); U.S. Census Bureau (2011).

7. Percentage of Population Under Age 65 Without Health Insurance

Rank		Percent
1	Massachusetts	4.9
2	Vermont	7.7
3	Hawaii	8.2
4	Connecticut	10.1
4	Minnesota	10.1
6	Wisconsin	10.3
7	Iowa	10.4
8	Delaware	10.9
9	North Dakota	11.3
10	Maryland	11.7
11	Pennsylvania	11.8
12	New Hampshire	12.1
13	Rhode Island	12.5
14	Maine	12.7
15	New York	13.0
16	Nebraska	13.1
17	Michigan	13.6
18	Ohio	13.8
18	South Dakota	13.8
20	Virginia	14.1
21	Kansas	14.3
22	Illinois	14.8
22	New Jersey	14.8
24	Missouri	15.8
50-State Average		15.9
25	Washington	16.1
26	Alabama	16.5
26	Indiana	16.5
28	Kentucky	16.6
29	Utah	16.7
30	Colorado	16.9
30	Tennessee	16.9
32	Wyoming	17.5
33	West Virginia	17.7
34	Oregon	18.2
35	North Carolina	18.7
36	Idaho	18.9
37	South Carolina	19.4
38	Arizona	19.9
38	Arkansas	19.9
38	Louisiana	19.9
41	California	20.2
42	Mississippi	20.3
42	Montana	21.3
44	Oklahoma	21.5
45	Alaska	21.7
46	Georgia	21.8
47	New Mexico	22.7
48	Nevada	24.7
49	Florida	25.0
50	Texas	25.4

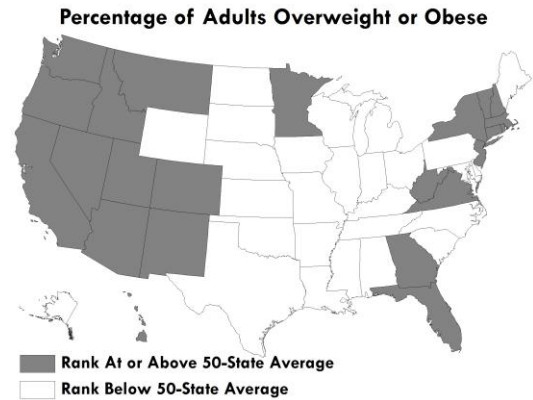


- States aspire to a low percentage of population without health insurance.
- North Carolina ranked 35th in percentage of population under age 65 without health insurance in 2011 at 18.7%. The 50-state average was 15.9%. In 2009, North Carolina ranked 40th on this indicator.
- The number of North Carolinians under age 65 without health insurance in 2009 was approximately 1.5 million people.
- The number of North Carolinians under age 65 without health insurance decreased by 7.5% between 2009 and 2011, a decrease of 125,214 persons.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, only Virginia had a lower percentage of people under age 65 without health insurance than the 50-state average.
- Health insurance coverage is defined broadly and may be provided through private or government-sponsored sources. Government sources for those under age 65 include Medicaid, the State Children's Health Insurance Program, state-specific plans, and the Indian Health Service.

Source: American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau (2011); Current Population Survey, U.S. Census Bureau (2009).

8. Percentage of Adults Overweight or Obese

Rank		Percent
1	Hawaii	55.8
2	Colorado	56.1
3	Utah	58.9
4	Massachusetts	59.4
5	Connecticut	59.6
6	Vermont	59.8
7	California	60.2
8	Montana	60.3
8	Nevada	60.3
10	New York	60.5
11	Washington	61.0
12	Wyoming	61.2
13	New Jersey	61.5
14	New Hampshire	61.6
14	Oregon	61.6
16	Idaho	62.3
16	New Mexico	62.3
18	Arizona	62.5
18	Minnesota	62.5
18	Rhode Island	62.5
21	Georgia	62.7
22	Florida	63.4
23	Virginia	63.4
50-State Average		63.4
24	North Dakota	63.8
25	Delaware	63.9
26	Illinois	64.1
26	Wisconsin	64.1
28	Kansas	64.4
28	Maryland	64.4
30	Pennsylvania	64.5
30	South Dakota	64.5
32	Iowa	64.8
32	Missouri	64.8
34	Nebraska	64.9
35	Arkansas	65.0
36	Maine	65.1
37	North Carolina	65.2
38	Oklahoma	65.4
39	Michigan	65.5
40	Indiana	65.7
41	Ohio	65.8
42	South Carolina	65.9
43	Texas	66.0
44	Alaska	66.5
44	Tennessee	66.5
46	Kentucky	66.6
47	Alabama	66.8
48	Louisiana	67.6
49	Mississippi	68.9
50	West Virginia	69.0

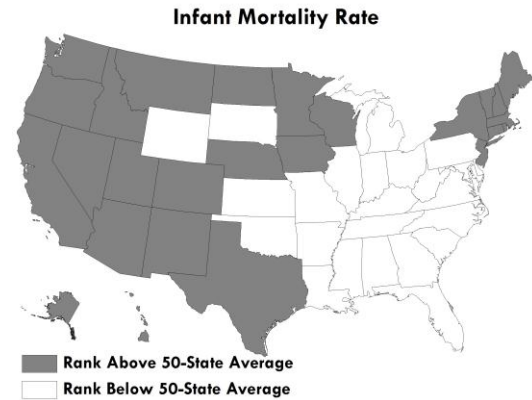


- States aspire to a low percentage of people who are overweight, obese, or diagnosed with diseases related to obesity.
- North Carolina ranked 37th in percentage of adults classified as overweight or obese in 2011 at 65.2%. The 50-state average was 63.4%. In 2009, North Carolina ranked 31st on this indicator.
- North Carolina ranked 39th in percentage of children (age 10 to 17) classified as overweight or obese in 2007 at 33.5%. The 50-state average was 30.9%.
- North Carolina ranked 37th in percentage of adults diagnosed with diabetes in 2010 at 9.8%. The 50-state average was 8.8%.
- Overweight and obese are labels for ranges of weight that are greater than what is generally considered healthy for a given height. The terms also identify ranges of weight that have been shown to increase the likelihood of certain diseases and other health problems.

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation data on adult overweight/obesity rate (2011) and overweight/obese children (2007); Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2010).

9. Infant Mortality Rate

Rank		Rate
1	Massachusetts	4.9
1	Utah	4.9
3	Washington	5.0
4	California	5.1
4	New Hampshire	5.1
4	Vermont	5.1
7	Iowa	5.4
7	New Jersey	5.4
7	Oregon	5.4
10	Minnesota	5.6
10	New York	5.6
12	New Mexico	5.8
13	Nebraska	5.9
14	Colorado	6.0
14	Hawaii	6.0
14	Maine	6.0
17	Nevada	6.1
18	Texas	6.2
19	Connecticut	6.3
20	North Dakota	6.4
21	Alaska	6.5
21	Arizona	6.5
21	Idaho	6.5
21	Montana	6.5
21	Rhode Island	6.5
26	Wisconsin	6.6
50-State Average		6.8
27	Kentucky	7.0
28	Illinois	7.1
28	Wyoming	7.1
30	Florida	7.2
30	South Dakota	7.2
30	Virginia	7.2
33	Missouri	7.3
34	Indiana	7.4
34	West Virginia	7.4
36	Kansas	7.5
36	Pennsylvania	7.5
38	Michigan	7.6
39	Ohio	7.7
40	Arkansas	7.9
40	Oklahoma	7.9
42	Delaware	8.0
42	Georgia	8.0
42	Maryland	8.0
45	North Carolina	8.3
45	South Carolina	8.3
47	Tennessee	8.4
48	Louisiana	9.4
49	Alabama	9.5
50	Mississippi	10.2

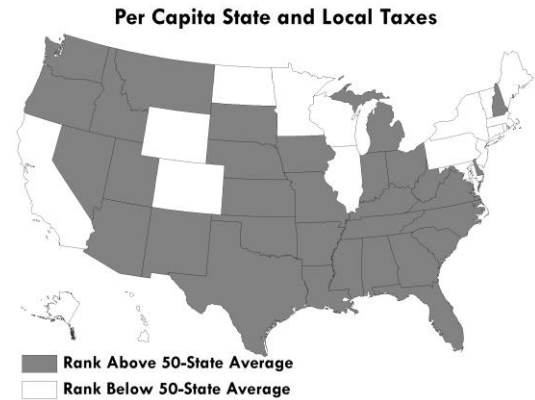


- States aspire to a low infant mortality rate and a low rate of low birthweight babies.
- North Carolina ranked 45th in infant mortality rate at 8.3 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in 2008. The 50-state average was 6.8. In 2006, North Carolina ranked 44th on this indicator.
- North Carolina's infant mortality rate for African-Americans was 12.9 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2011—more than twice the rate for white infants (5.5).
- The state's infant mortality rate has decreased more than 43% since 1988 when North Carolina had the highest infant mortality rate in the nation.
- Low birthweight (i.e., babies born weighing less than 2,500 grams, or about 5 pounds, 5 ounces) is a significant risk factor for infant mortality. In 2010, North Carolina ranked 46th in low birthweight babies at 9.1%. The 50-state average was 8.1%.

Sources: Kaiser Family Foundation data on infant death rate (2008) and births of low birthweight (2010); N.C. State Center for Health Statistics data on infant mortality statistics (1988, 2011).

10. Per Capita State and Local Taxes

Rank		Taxes in \$
1	Idaho	2,762
2	Alabama	2,776
3	South Carolina	2,838
4	Tennessee	2,870
5	Utah	2,997
6	Mississippi	3,021
7	Oklahoma	3,030
8	Arizona	3,061
9	Georgia	3,100
10	Missouri	3,164
11	South Dakota	3,165
12	Kentucky	3,168
13	New Mexico	3,170
14	Montana	3,248
15	Arkansas	3,249
16	Oregon	3,419
17	North Carolina	3,421
18	Texas	3,425
19	West Virginia	3,490
20	Florida	3,494
21	Louisiana	3,554
22	Indiana	3,595
23	Michigan	3,615
24	Nevada	3,747
25	Ohio	3,763
26	New Hampshire	3,812
27	Virginia	3,885
28	Iowa	3,918
29	Washington	3,970
30	Delaware	3,979
31	Kansas	3,992
32	Nebraska	4,026
	50-State Average	4,037
33	Colorado	4,060
34	Pennsylvania	4,147
35	Illinois	4,181
36	Wisconsin	4,286
37	Maine	4,398
38	Rhode Island	4,569
39	Minnesota	4,588
40	California	4,622
41	Vermont	4,719
42	Hawaii	4,840
43	Maryland	4,851
44	Massachusetts	5,105
45	North Dakota	5,157
46	New Jersey	5,806
47	Connecticut	5,986
48	Wyoming	6,165
49	New York	7,025
50	Alaska	8,638



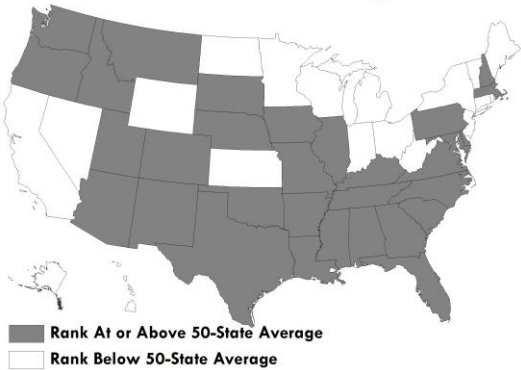
- States aspire to have low per capita state and local taxes.
- North Carolina ranked 17th in per capita state and local taxes in Fiscal Year 2009-10 at \$3,421. The 50 state-average was \$4,037. In Fiscal Year 2007-08, North Carolina ranked 18th on this indicator.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, North Carolina had lower per capita state and local taxes than Florida, Louisiana, Virginia, and West Virginia in Fiscal Year 2009-10.
- In terms of local taxes, North Carolina ranked 13th in per capita local taxes in Fiscal Year 2009-10 at \$1,170. The 50-state average was \$1,620.
- Per capita taxes and taxes as a percentage of personal income are two commonly used measures that facilitate comparisons across states. They do not describe how taxes might differ, for example, by household income levels or for businesses versus individuals.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau data on state and local government finance (2009-2010) and population estimates (2010).

11. State and Local Taxes as a Percentage of Personal Income

Rank		Percent
1	South Dakota	8.0
2	Alabama	8.2
2	Tennessee	8.2
4	Oklahoma	8.5
5	Missouri	8.7
5	New Hampshire	8.7
7	Idaho	8.8
7	South Carolina	8.8
7	Virginia	8.8
10	Georgia	9.0
10	Texas	9.0
12	Arizona	9.1
12	Florida	9.1
14	Utah	9.3
15	Montana	9.4
15	Washington	9.4
17	Oregon	9.5
18	Colorado	9.6
18	Louisiana	9.6
18	New Mexico	9.6
21	Kentucky	9.7
22	Mississippi	9.8
23	North Carolina	9.9
24	Arkansas	10.0
24	Illinois	10.0
24	Maryland	10.0
24	Massachusetts	10.0
28	Delaware	10.1
29	Nebraska	10.2
29	Pennsylvania	10.2
31	Iowa	10.3
50-State Average		10.3
32	Kansas	10.4
33	Michigan	10.5
33	Nevada	10.5
33	Ohio	10.5
36	Indiana	10.6
37	Connecticut	10.8
37	Minnesota	10.8
39	Rhode Island	10.9
40	California	11.0
40	West Virginia	11.0
42	Wisconsin	11.3
43	New Jersey	11.5
44	Hawaii	11.8
45	Vermont	11.9
46	Maine	12.0
47	North Dakota	12.1
48	Wyoming	13.6
49	New York	14.3
50	Alaska	19.7

State and Local Taxes as a Percentage of Income

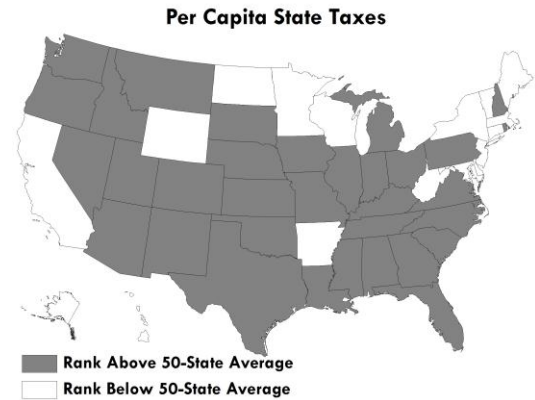


- States aspire to have low state and local taxes as a percentage of personal income.
- North Carolina ranked 23rd in state and local taxes as a percentage of personal income in Fiscal Year 2009-10 at 9.9%. The 50-state average was 10.3%. In Fiscal Year 2007-08, North Carolina ranked 17th on this indicator.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, North Carolina had lower state and local taxes as a percentage of personal income than Arkansas and West Virginia in Fiscal Year 2009-10.
- Per capita taxes and taxes as a percentage of personal income are two commonly used measures that facilitate comparisons across states. They do not describe how taxes might differ, for example, by household income levels or for businesses versus individuals.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau data on state and local government finance (2009-10); U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis data on personal income (2010).

12. Per Capita State Taxes

Rank		Taxes in \$
1	Georgia	1,630
2	South Carolina	1,643
3	Arizona	1,673
4	South Dakota	1,674
5	Missouri	1,682
6	Texas	1,682
7	Tennessee	1,696
8	Florida	1,708
9	New Hampshire	1,760
10	Alabama	1,798
11	Colorado	1,850
12	Louisiana	1,938
13	Utah	1,944
14	Oklahoma	2,048
15	Idaho	2,058
16	Oregon	2,095
17	Virginia	2,150
18	Ohio	2,181
19	Nebraska	2,254
20	Mississippi	2,254
21	Illinois	2,287
22	Indiana	2,288
23	Montana	2,308
24	North Carolina	2,320
25	Nevada	2,325
26	Kentucky	2,335
27	Iowa	2,363
28	Kansas	2,378
29	Michigan	2,384
30	New Mexico	2,392
31	Pennsylvania	2,539
32	Washington	2,549
33	Rhode Island	2,604
50-State Average		2,629
34	Arkansas	2,634
35	Wisconsin	2,687
36	Maryland	2,746
37	Maine	2,768
38	West Virginia	2,772
39	New Jersey	3,082
40	California	3,096
41	Delaware	3,327
42	Massachusetts	3,353
43	New York	3,491
44	Hawaii	3,533
45	Minnesota	3,546
46	Connecticut	3,751
47	Vermont	4,291
48	Wyoming	4,333
49	North Dakota	5,589
50	Alaska	7,662

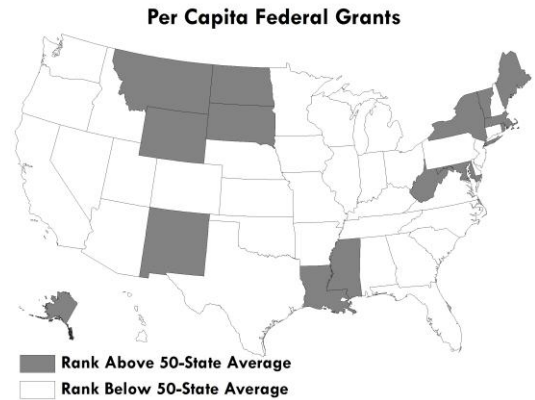


- States aspire to have low per capita state taxes.
- North Carolina ranked 24th in per capita state taxes in Fiscal Year 2010-11 at \$2,320. The 50-state average was \$2,629. In Fiscal Year 2008-09, North Carolina ranked 18th on this indicator.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, North Carolina had lower per capita state taxes than Arkansas, Kentucky, and West Virginia in Fiscal Year 2010-11.
- Per capita taxes and taxes as a percentage of personal income are two commonly used measures that facilitate comparisons across states. They do not describe how taxes might differ, for example, by household income levels or for businesses versus individuals.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau data on state government tax collections and population estimates (2011).

13. Per Capita Federal Grants

Rank		Grants in \$
1	Alaska	4,853
2	Wyoming	3,993
3	Vermont	3,802
4	Massachusetts	3,409
5	Louisiana	3,320
6	North Dakota	3,317
7	New York	3,254
8	New Mexico	3,253
9	Rhode Island	2,994
10	Montana	2,966
11	Maine	2,853
12	South Dakota	2,756
13	West Virginia	2,681
14	Mississippi	2,650
15	Maryland	2,496
50-State Average		2,360
16	Arkansas	2,342
17	Missouri	2,335
18	Connecticut	2,320
19	Pennsylvania	2,314
20	Delaware	2,284
21	Oregon	2,265
22	Arizona	2,239
23	Hawaii	2,219
24	Tennessee	2,217
25	Kentucky	2,186
26	Washington	2,183
27	Ohio	2,115
28	California	2,112
29	Wisconsin	2,107
30	North Carolina	2,102
31	Iowa	2,097
32	Oklahoma	2,088
33	Michigan	2,083
34	Minnesota	1,982
35	Alabama	1,938
36	Nebraska	1,916
37	Idaho	1,896
38	Illinois	1,873
39	Indiana	1,843
40	Utah	1,796
41	South Carolina	1,771
42	Texas	1,767
43	New Jersey	1,756
44	New Hampshire	1,755
45	Colorado	1,741
46	Georgia	1,725
47	Kansas	1,657
48	Virginia	1,524
49	Florida	1,489
50	Nevada	1,369

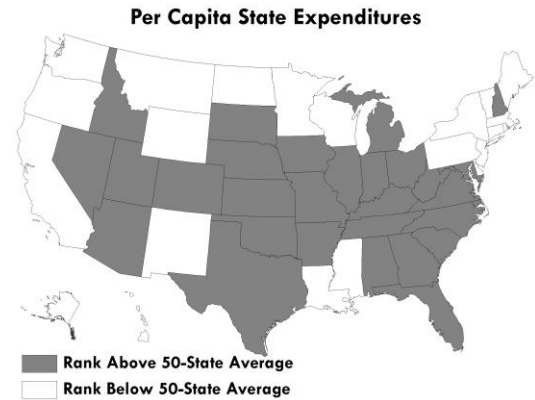


- States aspire to have high per capita federal grants.
- North Carolina ranked 30th in per capita federal grants in Fiscal Year 2009-10 at \$2,102. The 50-state average was \$2,360. In Fiscal Year 2008-09, North Carolina ranked 30th on this indicator.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, and Virginia had lower per capita federal grants than North Carolina in Fiscal Year 2009-10.
- Federal grants consist of formula grants such as Medicaid and the National Lunch Program, project grants for research or construction activities, and categorical or block grants.
- Per capita federal grants is a commonly used measure that allows easy comparisons across states, indicating the amount of federal grants states receive.

Sources: Consolidated Federal Funds Report for Fiscal Year 2010: State and County Areas, U.S. Census Bureau (2011, September); U.S. Census 2010.

14. Per Capita State Expenditures

Rank		Expenditures in \$
1	Florida	4,343
2	Georgia	4,580
3	Tennessee	4,668
4	Texas	4,746
5	Nevada	4,782
6	Missouri	5,134
7	Arizona	5,148
8	Nebraska	5,224
9	Virginia	5,415
10	Idaho	5,418
11	South Dakota	5,425
12	North Carolina	5,458
13	Indiana	5,465
14	Colorado	5,478
15	Alabama	5,788
16	Kansas	5,800
17	New Hampshire	5,852
18	Utah	5,859
19	Illinois	5,861
20	Oklahoma	6,019
21	Arkansas	6,164
22	South Carolina	6,263
23	Iowa	6,265
24	Michigan	6,470
25	Maryland	6,485
26	Ohio	6,648
27	West Virginia	6,658
28	Kentucky	6,695
	50-State Average	6,718
29	Mississippi	6,742
30	Wisconsin	6,781
31	Maine	6,798
32	Washington	6,856
33	Pennsylvania	6,868
34	California	6,884
35	Oregon	7,027
36	Montana	7,117
37	Minnesota	7,145
38	Louisiana	7,397
39	North Dakota	7,612
40	Connecticut	7,684
41	New Jersey	7,700
42	Rhode Island	7,799
43	Massachusetts	7,900
44	Hawaii	8,277
45	Delaware	8,699
46	New Mexico	8,711
47	New York	8,989
48	Vermont	9,179
49	Wyoming	10,199
50	Alaska	15,420

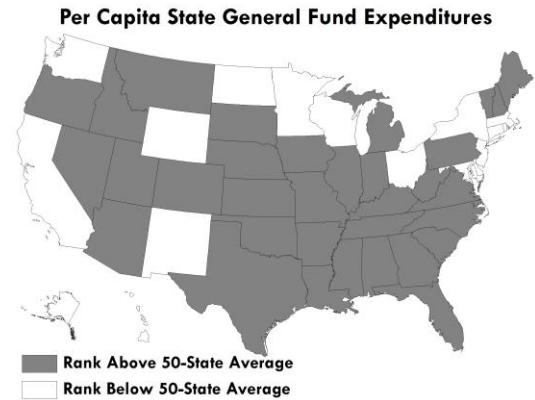


- States aspire to have low per capita state expenditures.
- North Carolina ranked 12th in per capita state expenditures in Fiscal Year 2009-10 at \$5,458. The 50-state average was \$6,718. In Fiscal Year 2007-08, North Carolina ranked 15th on this indicator.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, North Carolina had higher per capita state expenditures than Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, and Virginia in Fiscal Year 2009-10.
- Per capita state expenditures is a commonly used measure that allows easy comparisons across states, indicating how much is spent per person in a state. It does not describe how state expenditures might differ, for example, by the types of services covered.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau data on state government finance (2010) and population estimates (2010).

15. Per Capita State General Fund Expenditures

Rank		Expenditures in \$
1	Michigan	779
2	New Hampshire	1,048
3	South Carolina	1,110
4	Florida	1,126
5	Nevada	1,128
6	Vermont	1,237
7	Missouri	1,262
8	Alabama	1,377
9	South Dakota	1,386
10	Arizona	1,416
11	Mississippi	1,440
12	Arkansas	1,445
13	Colorado	1,451
14	Idaho	1,488
15	Georgia	1,501
16	Tennessee	1,560
17	Texas	1,563
18	Utah	1,600
19	Montana	1,643
20	Oklahoma	1,655
21	Oregon	1,660
22	Iowa	1,738
23	Nebraska	1,810
24	Kansas	1,843
25	Virginia	1,868
26	North Carolina	1,936
27	Kentucky	1,944
28	Pennsylvania	1,962
29	West Virginia	1,986
30	Indiana	1,990
31	Louisiana	1,994
32	Illinois	2,048
33	Maine	2,159
	50-State Average	2,185
34	Ohio	2,203
35	Washington	2,229
36	Wisconsin	2,253
37	Maryland	2,323
38	California	2,336
39	North Dakota	2,350
40	New Mexico	2,545
41	Rhode Island	2,720
42	New York	2,798
43	Minnesota	2,905
44	New Jersey	3,286
45	Connecticut	3,313
46	Delaware	3,420
47	Hawaii	3,548
48	Massachusetts	4,206
49	Wyoming	6,796
50	Alaska	7,880



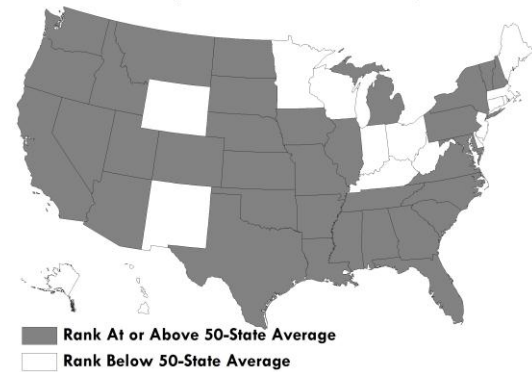
- States aspire to have low per capita state General Fund expenditures.
- North Carolina ranked 26th in per capita state General Fund expenditures in Fiscal Year 2009-010 at \$1,936. The 50-state average was \$2,185. In Fiscal Year 2008-09, North Carolina ranked 29th on this indicator.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, North Carolina had lower per capita state General Fund expenditures than Kentucky, Louisiana, and West Virginia in Fiscal Year 2009-10.
- Per capita state General Fund expenditures and state General Fund expenditures as a percentage of personal income are two commonly used measures that facilitate comparisons across states. They do not describe how state General Fund expenditures might differ, for example, by the types of services covered.

Sources: Fiscal Year 2010 State Expenditure Report, National Association of State Budget Officers (2011, Fall); U.S. Census Bureau data on population estimates (2010).

16. State General Fund Expenditures as a Percentage of Personal Income

Rank		Percent
1	Michigan	2.1
2	New Hampshire	2.3
3	Florida	2.8
4	Nevada	3.0
4	Vermont	3.0
6	South Dakota	3.1
7	Colorado	3.3
7	Missouri	3.3
7	South Carolina	3.3
10	Texas	3.8
11	Alabama	3.9
12	Arizona	4.0
12	Virginia	4.0
14	Georgia	4.1
15	Iowa	4.2
15	Nebraska	4.2
15	Tennessee	4.2
18	Arkansas	4.3
19	Oklahoma	4.4
19	Oregon	4.4
21	Idaho	4.5
22	Kansas	4.5
22	Mississippi	4.5
22	Montana	4.5
25	Maryland	4.6
25	Pennsylvania	4.6
27	Illinois	4.7
27	Utah	4.7
29	North Dakota	4.9
30	Washington	5.0
31	Louisiana	5.1
32	North Carolina	5.3
34	New York	5.5
	50-State Average	5.5
35	Indiana	5.6
35	Maine	5.6
37	Connecticut	5.7
37	Kentucky	5.7
37	Wisconsin	5.7
40	Ohio	5.8
41	West Virginia	5.9
42	Rhode Island	6.2
43	New Jersey	6.3
44	Minnesota	6.5
45	New Mexico	7.4
46	Massachusetts	7.8
47	Delaware	8.2
47	Hawaii	8.2
49	Wyoming	14.1
50	Alaska	17.0

General Fund Expenditures as a Percentage of Income

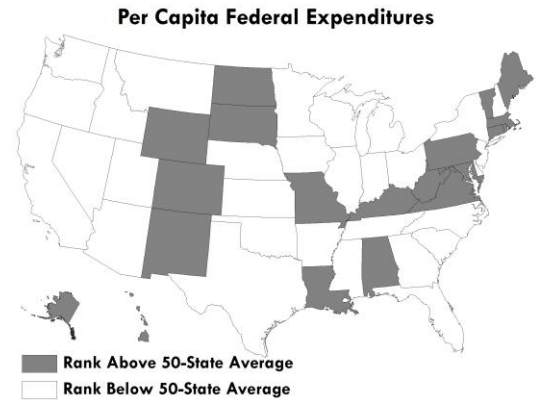


- States aspire to have low state General Fund expenditures as a percentage of personal income.
- North Carolina ranked 32nd in state General Fund expenditures as a percentage of personal income in Fiscal Year 2009-10 at 5.3%. The 50-state average was 5.5%. In Fiscal Year 2008-09, North Carolina ranked 33rd on this indicator.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, North Carolina had lower state General Fund expenditures as a percentage of personal income than Kentucky and West Virginia in Fiscal Year 2009-10.
- Per capita state General Fund expenditures and state General Fund expenditures as a percentage of personal income are two commonly used measures that facilitate comparisons across states. They do not describe how state General Fund expenditures might differ, for example, by the types of services covered.

Sources: Fiscal Year 2010 State Expenditure Report, National Association of State Budget Officers (2011, Fall); U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis data on personal income (2010).

17. Per Capita Federal Expenditures

Rank		Expenditures in \$
1	Alaska	17,668
2	Virginia	16,958
3	Maryland	16,637
4	Connecticut	15,649
5	Hawaii	15,294
6	New Mexico	13,533
7	Kentucky	13,177
8	North Dakota	12,893
9	Massachusetts	12,574
10	Vermont	11,830
11	Alabama	11,806
12	Missouri	11,732
13	Louisiana	11,710
14	South Dakota	11,644
15	West Virginia	11,603
16	Pennsylvania	11,482
17	Rhode Island	11,168
18	Colorado	11,087
19	Maine	11,031
20	Wyoming	11,003
50-State Average		10,873
21	Montana	10,857
22	Tennessee	10,833
23	Mississippi	10,579
24	Washington	10,444
25	New York	10,430
26	Oklahoma	10,228
27	Kansas	10,159
28	South Carolina	10,046
29	Arizona	10,045
30	Florida	9,908
31	Arkansas	9,893
32	Wisconsin	9,641
33	Georgia	9,512
34	North Carolina	9,490
35	Iowa	9,305
36	Ohio	9,227
37	Michigan	9,205
38	New Jersey	9,202
39	Idaho	9,069
40	Nebraska	9,032
41	Indiana	9,029
42	Delaware	8,976
43	California	8,937
44	Texas	8,937
45	Oregon	8,850
46	New Hampshire	8,608
47	Illinois	8,562
48	Utah	8,480
49	Minnesota	8,356
50	Nevada	7,310

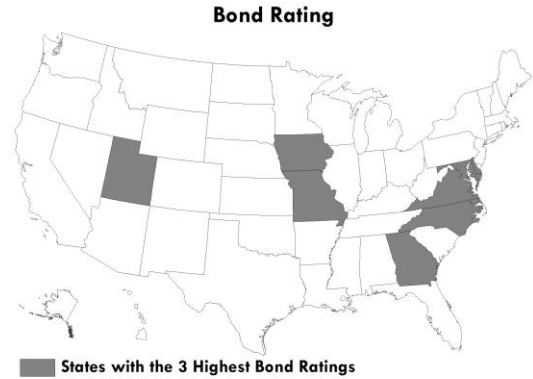


- States aspire to have high per capita federal expenditures.
- North Carolina ranked 34th in per capita federal expenditures in Fiscal Year 2009-10 at \$9,490. The 50-state average was \$10,873. In Fiscal Year 2008-09, North Carolina ranked 43rd on this indicator. Per capita federal expenditures in North Carolina increased by \$447 from Fiscal Year 2008-09.
- Among the 12 southeastern states, North Carolina had the lowest per capita federal expenditures in Fiscal Year 2009-10.
- Defense personnel is a major component of federal expenditures in North Carolina with 116,073 military personnel—10.7% of all military personnel—stationed in the state in 2009.
- Federal expenditures consist of grants, retirement and disability payments, direct payments (such as the Federal Family Education Loan Program and Postal Services), procurement, and salaries and wages.

Sources: Consolidated Federal Funds Report for Fiscal Year 2010: State and County Areas, U.S. Census Bureau (2011, August); Consolidated Federal Funds Report for Fiscal Year 2009: State and County Areas, U.S. Census Bureau (2010, September); U.S. Census Bureau data on population estimates (2010, 2009); U.S. Department of Defense data on personnel by state (2009).

18. Bond Ratings

Rank		Moody's	S&P	Fitch
1	Delaware	Aaa	AAA	AAA
1	Georgia	Aaa	AAA	AAA
1	Iowa	Aaa	AAA	AAA
1	Maryland	Aaa	AAA	AAA
1	Missouri	Aaa	AAA	AAA
1	North Carolina	Aaa	AAA	AAA
1	Utah	Aaa	AAA	AAA
1	Virginia	Aaa	AAA	AAA
1	Wyoming	--	AAA	--
10	Alaska	Aaa	AAA	AA+
10	Florida	Aa1	AAA	AAA
10	Indiana	Aaa	AAA	AA+
10	South Carolina	Aaa	AA+	AAA
10	Tennessee	Aaa	AA+	AAA
10	Texas	Aaa	AA+	AAA
10	Vermont	Aaa	AA+	AAA
17	New Mexico	Aaa	AA+	--
18	Kansas	Aa1	AA+	-
18	Massachusetts	Aa1	AA+	AA+
18	Minnesota	Aa1	AA+	AA+
18	Nebraska	Aa2	AAA	--
18	North Dakota	Aa1	AA+	--
18	Ohio	Aa1	AA+	AA+
18	Oregon	Aa1	AA+	AA+
18	Washington	Aa1	AA+	AA+
26	Alabama	Aa1	AA	AA+
26	Idaho	Aa1	AA+	AA
26	Montana	Aa1	AA	AA+
26	New Hampshire	Aa1	AA	AA+
26	Oklahoma	Aa2	AA+	AA+
26	West Virginia	Aa1	AA	AA+
32	Arkansas	Aa1	AA	--
32	Colorado	Aa1	AA	--
34	Maine	Aa2	AA	AA+
34	Mississippi	Aa2	AA	AA+
34	Nevada	Aa2	AA	AA+
34	Pennsylvania	Aa2	AA	AA+
34	South Dakota	Aa2	AA+	AA
39	Hawaii	Aa2	AA	AA
39	Louisiana	Aa2	AA	AA
39	New York	Aa2	AA	AA
39	Rhode Island	Aa2	AA	AA
39	Wisconsin	Aa2	AA	AA
44	Connecticut	Aa3	AA	AA
45	Michigan	Aa2	AA	AA
46	Arizona	Aa3	AA-	--
46	Kentucky	Aa2	AA-	A+
46	New Jersey	Aa3	AA	AA
49	Illinois	A2	A	A
50	California	A1	A	A



- States aspire to have high bond ratings from the three rating services (Moody's Investor Services, Standard & Poor's Corporation, and Fitch Ratings).
- North Carolina and seven other states ranked 1st in bond ratings for general obligation bonds in November 2012, receiving the highest rating from all three bond rating services. In December 2010, North Carolina and six other states ranked 1st on this indicator.
- States are ranked by the average value of their bond rating on a 10-point scale with a AAA rating equal to 10 points.
- State bond ratings affect the interest rates paid when state governments issue general obligation bonds. General obligation bonds are issued for funding permanent capital improvements such as buildings and roads. These bonds are repaid by levying taxes, and voter approval is required by the North Carolina Constitution.

Source: N.C. Department of the State Treasurer (2012, November).

19. Per Capita State and Local Debt

Rank		Debt in \$
1	Idaho	3,898
2	Wyoming	4,376
3	Mississippi	4,658
4	Arkansas	4,689
5	Iowa	4,902
6	Oklahoma	4,972
7	Georgia	5,400
8	North Carolina	5,422
9	Alabama	5,781
10	West Virginia	5,809
11	Tennessee	6,033
12	Montana	6,048
13	Ohio	6,611
14	North Dakota	6,623
15	Utah	6,624
16	South Dakota	6,692
17	Maine	6,713
18	Maryland	7,353
19	Missouri	7,426
20	Vermont	7,454
21	Wisconsin	7,571
22	Nebraska	7,580
23	Virginia	7,699
24	Louisiana	7,735
25	Arizona	7,791
26	Michigan	7,826
27	Indiana	7,879
28	Florida	7,993
29	New Mexico	8,153
30	South Carolina	8,215
	50-State Average	8,217
31	New Hampshire	8,348
32	Minnesota	8,542
32	Delaware	8,667
34	Oregon	8,857
35	Hawaii	9,267
36	Kentucky	9,618
37	Pennsylvania	9,618
38	Texas	9,895
39	Colorado	10,050
40	Kansas	10,117
41	Nevada	10,424
42	Washington	10,538
43	Illinois	10,590
44	California	10,820
45	New Jersey	11,143
46	Connecticut	11,418
47	Rhode Island	11,589
48	Alaska	14,268
49	Massachusetts	14,836
50	New York	16,327

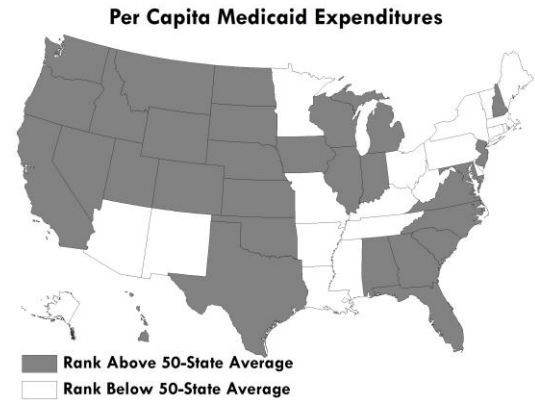


- States aspire to have low per capita state and local debt.
- North Carolina ranked 8th in per capita state and local debt in Fiscal Year 2009-10 at \$5,422. The 50-state average was \$8,217. In Fiscal Year 2007-08, North Carolina ranked 9th on this indicator.
- In regards to state debt, North Carolina ranked 9th in per capita state debt in Fiscal Year 2009-10 at \$1,972. The 50-state average was \$3,850.
- Per capita state and local debt is a commonly used measure that allows easy comparisons across states. This measure does not describe how state and local debt might differ, for example, by the types of debt instruments available to state and local governments.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau data on state and local government finance (2009-10) and population estimates (2010).

20. Per Capita Medicaid Expenditures

Rank		Expenditures in \$
1	Nevada	558
2	Utah	618
3	Georgia	802
4	Colorado	803
5	Virginia	806
6	Kansas	853
7	Idaho	878
8	Indiana	912
9	Florida	923
10	Montana	945
11	Nebraska	945
12	Wyoming	952
13	South Dakota	960
14	Alabama	992
15	New Hampshire	1,011
16	North Dakota	1,019
17	Iowa	1,023
18	Oregon	1,044
19	Hawaii	1,047
20	Washington	1,047
21	Texas	1,077
22	Oklahoma	1,095
23	South Carolina	1,115
24	California	1,129
25	North Carolina	1,141
26	Wisconsin	1,146
27	New Jersey	1,162
28	Michigan	1,180
29	Illinois	1,194
30	Maryland	1,224
	50-State Average	1,227
31	Kentucky	1,290
32	Ohio	1,323
33	Tennessee	1,340
34	Arkansas	1,349
35	Missouri	1,354
36	West Virginia	1,376
37	Mississippi	1,396
38	Minnesota	1,429
39	Delaware	1,432
40	Arizona	1,463
41	Pennsylvania	1,476
41	Louisiana	1,532
43	Connecticut	1,607
44	New Mexico	1,667
45	Alaska	1,690
46	Maine	1,730
47	Massachusetts	1,797
48	Rhode Island	1,830
49	Vermont	1,998
50	New York	2,687

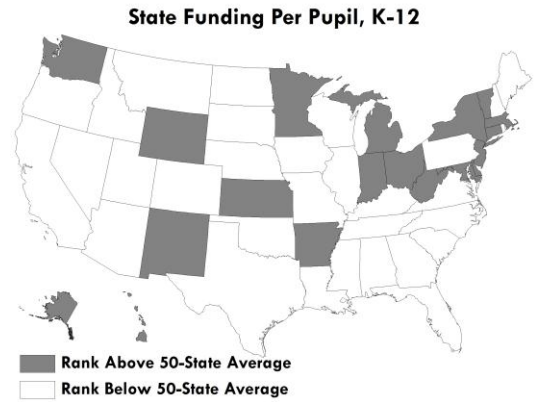


- States aspire to have low per capita Medicaid expenditures and low Medicaid enrollment.
- North Carolina ranked 25th in per capita Medicaid expenditures in federal Fiscal Year 2009-10 at \$1,141. The 50-state average was \$1,227. In federal Fiscal Year 2007-08, North Carolina ranked 30th on this indicator.
- North Carolina ranked 30th in Medicaid enrollment as a percentage of population in federal Fiscal Year 2008-09 at 19.3%. The 50-state average was 18.9%.
- Total Medicaid expenditures include state and federal expenditures for benefit payments and disproportionate share hospital payments. Administrative costs and accounting adjustments are not included.

Sources: Kaiser Family Foundation data on total Medicaid spending (2010) and total Medicaid enrollment (2009); U.S. Census Bureau data on population estimates (2009, 2010).

21. State Funding Per Pupil, K-12

Rank		Funding in \$
1	Vermont	14,625
2	Hawaii	11,617
3	Alaska	10,335
4	Wyoming	10,020
5	New York	8,568
6	Delaware	8,437
7	Minnesota	7,459
8	Arkansas	7,188
9	Indiana	7,156
10	New Mexico	6,963
11	Massachusetts	6,939
12	Washington	6,698
13	New Jersey	6,615
14	Maryland	6,537
15	Michigan	6,362
16	Kansas	6,069
17	Ohio	5,982
18	Connecticut	5,962
19	West Virginia	5,953
50-State Average		5,881
20	North Dakota	5,817
21	Maine	5,745
22	Wisconsin	5,725
23	Pennsylvania	5,570
24	California	5,565
25	Nevada	5,525
26	Kentucky	5,386
27	New Hampshire	5,382
28	Oregon	5,261
29	Montana	5,257
30	Rhode Island	5,223
31	North Carolina	5,159
32	Alabama	5,074
33	Louisiana	5,044
34	South Carolina	4,720
35	Colorado	4,623
36	Idaho	4,618
37	Iowa	4,515
38	Virginia	4,411
39	Mississippi	4,290
40	Illinois	4,145
41	Oklahoma	4,067
42	Georgia	4,058
43	Nebraska	4,018
44	Texas	3,997
45	Utah	3,960
46	Tennessee	3,947
47	Missouri	3,869
48	Arizona	3,257
49	South Dakota	3,226
50	Florida	3,127



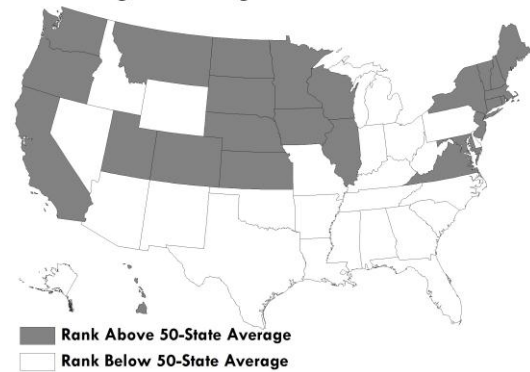
- States aspire to high state funding and spending per pupil in K-12 education.
- North Carolina ranked 31st in state funding per pupil at \$5,159 in Fiscal Year 2009-10. The 50-state average was \$5,881. In Fiscal Year 2007-08, North Carolina ranked 26th on this indicator.
- North Carolina ranked 26th in total funding (all sources) per pupil at \$11,507 in Fiscal Year 2009-10. The 50-state average was \$12,507. North Carolina's per pupil funds were 45% state, 44% local, and 11% federal
- In terms of spending, North Carolina ranked 44th in total spending per pupil at \$8,409 in Fiscal Year 2009-10. The 50-state average was \$10,795.
- Funding is the amount of money received that public schools have available to spend during the school year, whereas spending is the amount that public schools actually spend during the school year.

Source: Annual Survey of Local Government Finances, U.S. Census Bureau (2010).

22. Percentage of Adults with a High School Education or Less

Rank		Percent
1	Massachusetts	53.1
2	Colorado	55.0
3	Vermont	56.2
4	Connecticut	56.5
5	Maryland	56.8
6	New Hampshire	57.1
7	Minnesota	57.3
8	Virginia	57.8
8	Washington	58.4
10	New Jersey	58.6
11	New York	58.8
12	Rhode Island	60.5
13	North Dakota	60.6
14	Hawaii	60.9
15	Utah	61.0
16	Illinois	61.7
17	California	62.0
18	Kansas	62.5
18	Nebraska	62.5
18	Oregon	62.5
21	Maine	62.7
22	Montana	63.4
23	Iowa	63.7
24	South Dakota	63.9
25	Wisconsin	64.0
50-State Average		64.1
26	Delaware	64.2
27	North Carolina	64.4
28	Arizona	65.2
29	Florida	65.3
30	Wyoming	65.4
31	Pennsylvania	65.5
32	Georgia	65.8
32	Idaho	65.8
34	Michigan	65.9
35	Alaska	66.2
36	Missouri	66.8
37	New Mexico	67.0
37	Texas	67.0
39	South Carolina	67.4
40	Ohio	67.6
41	Indiana	69.1
42	Oklahoma	69.2
43	Alabama	70.4
43	Nevada	70.4
43	Tennessee	70.4
46	Mississippi	71.8
47	Kentucky	72.0
48	Louisiana	73.7
49	Arkansas	73.9
50	West Virginia	75.1

Percentage with a High School Education or Less

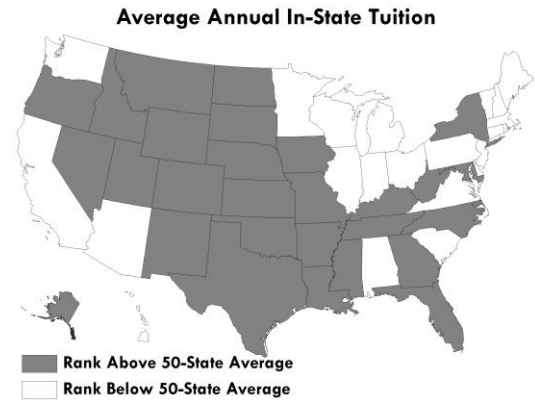


- States aspire to a low percentage of adults with a high school education or less and a high percentage of adults with a college degree.
- North Carolina ranked 27th in percentage of adults age 25 and over with a high school education or less in 2011 at 64.4%. The 50-state average was 64.1%. In 2009, North Carolina ranked 25th on this indicator.
- In North Carolina, 15.3% of adults have less than a high school education and 27.3% have a high school diploma or equivalent. An additional 21.8% have a high school education and have attended some college, but do not have a college degree.
- North Carolina's high school graduation rate in 2012 was 80.4%.
- North Carolina ranked 27th in percentage of population age 25 and over with a college degree in 2011 at 35.6%. The 50-state average was 35.9%.
- The percentage of adults with a high school education or less measures the number of adults age 25 and over whose highest educational attainment is a high school diploma, an equivalent, or less. This measure includes adults that have attended college, but do not have a college degree.

Sources: American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau (2011); N.C. Department of Public Instruction data on graduation rate (2012).

23. Average Annual In-State Tuition at Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities

Rank		Tuition in \$
1	Wyoming	4,278
2	Utah	5,595
3	New Mexico	5,687
4	Louisiana	5,812
5	Alaska	5,818
6	West Virginia	5,883
7	Idaho	5,991
8	Montana	6,139
9	Mississippi	6,147
10	North Carolina	6,220
11	Florida	6,232
12	Oklahoma	6,350
13	Nevada	6,371
14	New York	6,560
15	Arkansas	6,968
16	North Dakota	6,973
17	South Dakota	7,082
18	Nebraska	7,199
19	Kansas	7,277
20	Georgia	7,504
21	Tennessee	7,676
22	Iowa	7,830
23	Missouri	7,917
24	Maryland	8,220
25	Oregon	8,303
26	Texas	8,354
27	Colorado	8,416
28	Kentucky	8,455
	50-State Average	8,475
29	Hawaii	8,665
30	Wisconsin	8,690
31	Indiana	8,704
32	Alabama	8,741
33	Ohio	9,190
34	California	9,368
35	Maine	9,471
36	Connecticut	9,630
37	Arizona	9,729
38	Virginia	9,907
39	Minnesota	10,388
40	Massachusetts	10,619
41	South Carolina	10,698
42	Washington	10,774
43	Rhode Island	10,849
44	Delaware	10,890
45	Michigan	11,172
46	Illinois	12,118
47	Pennsylvania	12,330
48	New Jersey	12,399
49	Vermont	13,582
50	New Hampshire	14,576

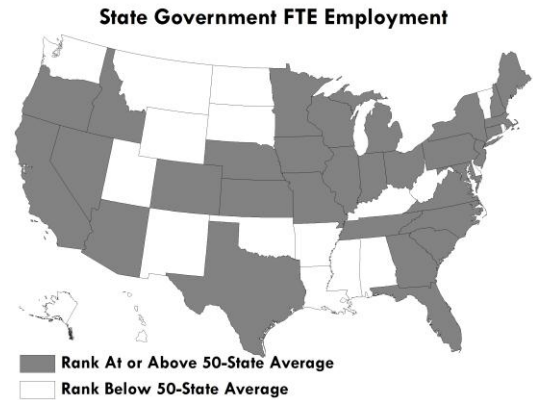


- States aspire to have low average annual in-state tuition at public four-year and two-year colleges and universities.
- North Carolina ranked 10th in average annual in-state tuition and fees at public four-year colleges and universities in 2012-13 at \$6,220. The 50-state average was \$8,475. In 2010-11, North Carolina ranked 7th on this indicator.
- In regards to two-year institutions, North Carolina ranked 4th in average annual in-state tuition and fees at public two-year institutions in 2012-13 at \$2,161. The 50-state average was \$3,543.

Sources: Trends in College Pricing, College Board (2012).

24. State Government FTE Employment per 100 Persons

Rank		Employees
1	Florida	1.0
1	Illinois	1.0
1	Nevada	1.0
4	Arizona	1.1
4	California	1.1
6	Ohio	1.2
6	Texas	1.2
6	Wisconsin	1.2
9	Georgia	1.3
9	New York	1.3
9	Pennsylvania	1.3
9	Tennessee	1.3
13	Colorado	1.4
13	Idaho	1.4
13	Indiana	1.4
13	Massachusetts	1.4
17	Kansas	1.5
17	Maryland	1.5
17	Michigan	1.5
17	Minnesota	1.5
17	Missouri	1.5
17	New Hampshire	1.5
17	Virginia	1.5
24	Iowa	1.6
24	Maine	1.6
24	North Carolina	1.6
27	Connecticut	1.7
27	Nebraska	1.7
27	New Jersey	1.7
27	Oregon	1.7
27	South Carolina	1.7
50-State Average		1.7
32	Louisiana	1.8
32	Oklahoma	1.8
32	Rhode Island	1.8
32	South Dakota	1.8
32	Washington	1.8
37	Alabama	1.9
37	Kentucky	1.9
37	Mississippi	1.9
37	Utah	1.9
41	Arkansas	2.1
41	Montana	2.1
41	West Virginia	2.1
44	New Mexico	2.2
45	Vermont	2.3
46	Wyoming	2.4
47	North Dakota	2.7
48	Delaware	2.9
49	Alaska	3.7
50	Hawaii	4.2

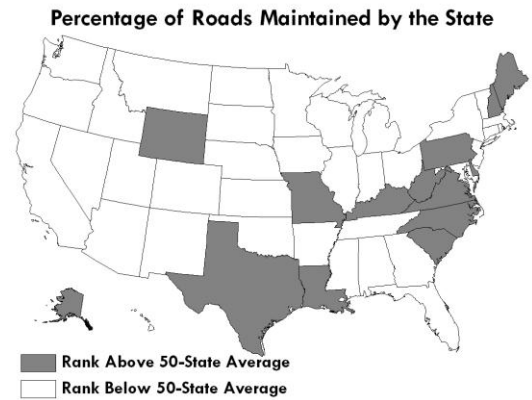


- States aspire to have low state government employment.
- North Carolina ranked 24th in state government full-time equivalent (FTE) employment in 2011 at 1.6 positions per 100 persons. The 50-state average was 1.7. In 2009, North Carolina ranked 21st on this indicator.
- The average salary for North Carolina state employees (not including employees in public schools, community colleges, or the University of North Carolina System) was \$43,244 in Fiscal Year 2012-13.
- In terms of state and local government FTE employment, North Carolina ranked 36th in 2011 at 5.8 positions per 100 residents. The 50-state average was 5.6.
- FTE represents the number of full-time employees that could have been employed if all part-time hours had been worked by full-time employees.
- States vary as to whether certain major functions are provided by state or local government. The U.S. Census Bureau data on state government FTE does not consider public school teachers and administrators in North Carolina to be state employees.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau data on state government employment and payroll (2011) and population estimates (2011); Fiscal Research Division (2012, December).

25. Percentage of Roads Maintained by the State

Rank		Percent
1	West Virginia	89.4
2	Delaware	84.6
3	Virginia	78.3
4	North Carolina	75.6
5	South Carolina	62.5
6	Maine	37.2
7	Alaska	35.8
8	Kentucky	34.9
9	Pennsylvania	32.7
10	Louisiana	27.2
11	Texas	26.1
12	Missouri	25.8
13	New Hampshire	24.8
14	Wyoming	24.0
50-State Average		22.0
15	Hawaii	21.7
16	Vermont	18.2
17	New Mexico	17.5
18	Connecticut	17.4
19	Rhode Island	17.3
20	Arkansas	16.5
21	Maryland	16.4
22	Ohio	15.7
23	Nevada	15.5
24	Tennessee	14.9
25	Georgia	14.8
26	Montana	14.7
27	Mississippi	14.5
28	New York	13.1
28	Utah	13.0
30	Oregon	12.8
31	Indiana	11.7
32	Illinois	11.5
33	Alabama	11.2
33	Arizona	11.2
35	Oklahoma	10.8
36	Nebraska	10.6
37	Colorado	10.3
37	Idaho	10.3
39	Wisconsin	10.2
40	Florida	10.0
41	South Dakota	9.5
41	California	8.8
43	Minnesota	8.6
44	North Dakota	8.5
44	Washington	8.5
46	Massachusetts	8.3
47	Michigan	7.9
47	Iowa	7.8
49	Kansas	7.4
50	New Jersey	6.0



- This indicator was ranked from the highest value to the lowest value.
- North Carolina ranked 4th in the percentage of roads maintained by the state in 2009 at 75.6%. The 50-state average was 22%. In 2008, North Carolina also ranked 4th on this indicator.
- North Carolina ranked 16th in miles of roads maintained by the state in 2010 with 105,653 miles. The 50-state average was 81,311 miles.
- States aspire to have low state highway expenditures. North Carolina ranked 41st in state highway expenditures in 2010 at \$3.6 billion. The 50-state average was \$2.9 billion.
- North Carolina was the first state in the country to create and maintain a statewide highway system. North Carolina state government also is responsible for all non-municipal roads within county boundaries.
- Roads not maintained by state government are maintained by local government (county, municipality, or other jurisdictions) or a federal agency.

Sources: Highway Statistics, Federal Highway Administration (2009 and 2010); Our State, Our Money: A Citizen's Guide to the North Carolina Budget (2003).

Methodology

The data in this compendium represent the most current information available for all 50 states (data on the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico were not included) as of December 2012. The Program Evaluation Division identified the best source of data for each table. When necessary, calculations were done to provide the information in the most useful format.

As shown in the source notes for each indicator, the majority of data are from the U.S. Census Bureau or other federal agencies such as the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Bureau of Economic Analysis. Data on several of the health tables were obtained from the Kaiser Family Foundation, a leader in collecting health-related data for the U.S. For more detailed information on sources, please contact the Program Evaluation Division.

The data tables display values for each state in whole numbers or to one decimal point. Each state was then ranked according to these data. If two or more states had the same value, they were given the same ranking and listed in alphabetical order.

The data tables also display the 50-state average, allowing the reader to compare North Carolina to the average of other states. This average was calculated by summing each state's value and dividing by 50. This number differs from national averages, which are typically weighted and include the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Each map indicates the states that rank at or above the 50-state average (in gray) and below the 50-state average (in white).

Tables 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 19, and 20 present per capita information. For each table the data were collected and divided by the total population for the year the data were reported.

Tables 11 and 16 present information as a percentage of personal income. The calculation for these tables is similar to per capita, but instead of dividing by state population, the data were divided by each state's total personal income.

The information in Table 24, State Government FTE Employment per 100 Persons, was calculated by dividing each state's full-time equivalent employment by the state's population and multiplying the result by 100.

For more information on this compendium, please contact the lead for this project, Catherine Moga Bryant, at catherine.mogabryant@ncleg.net or 919-301-1975.

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